

COSTLIEST TWISTERS IN WISCONSIN

(1844 - 2012)

DATE	COUNTY (IES)	DAMAGE CODE (Property/Crop)	DAMAGE AMOUNT (Known)	2012 Dollars
7/18/1996	Fond Du Lac (Oakfield)		\$40.4 mil	59.2M
6/7-8/1984	Iowa-Dane (Barneveld)	7/6	\$40.0 mil	88.5M
8/18/2005	Dane (Stoughton)	7/6	\$34.3 mil	40.4M
6/17/1992	Dane (Belleville/McFarland)	7/6	\$18.0 mil	29.5M
4/27/1984	Oneida-Vilas	7/0	\$15.8 mil	35.0M
4/04/1981	Washington (West Bend)	7/0	\$12.9 mil	32.6M
8/29/1992	Waushara	7/5	>\$10.0 mil	16.4M
8/23/1998	Door County		\$6.5 mil	9.2M
8/12/1985	Wood	7/6	\$6.2 mil	13.2M
6/05/1977	Fond Du Lac-Dodge-Waukesha	7/-	>\$6.0 mil	22.8M
7/30/1977	Chippewa	7/-	\$6.0 mil	22.8M
6/08/1985	Price-Oneida	7/6	\$6.0 mil	12.8M
3/27/1991	Green-Rock-Dane-Jefferson	7/0	>\$5.0 mil	8.4M

The following are tornadoes that had codes but no given dollar amount:

6/04/1958	St. Croix-Dunn	7/4	\$5 mil-\$50 mil
9/09/1884	St. Croix-Barron-Polk	6/1	\$500,000-\$5 mil
6/12/1899	St. Croix (New Richmond)	6/1	\$500,000-\$5 mil

This is a preliminary listing of the costliest twisters in Wisconsin history. The data was compiled by NWS Meteorologist Bob McMahon from the **StormData** publication and from the **Wisconsin Tornado Database** compiled by Geographic Techniques in Madison, Wi.

Prior to August 1994, the damage statistics for each event were given a numerical code that was associated with a range of monetary damages. These ranges were rather broad, ie. 6 is the code for damage that ranged from \$500,000 to \$4,999,999! Included in this summary are those events that rated a 7 on the damage scale, or tied or exceeded 6 million dollars.

Also, these ranges are **not** normalized to a particular year's value of the American dollar. **Clearly this makes the Barneveld Tornado of 1984 the most expensive twister to track across Wisconsin.** Additionally, the St.Croix/Polk tornado of 1884 and the New Richmond Tornado of June 12, 1899 were included based on the assumption that the extensive damage would be quite costly if they occurred in the 20th century. Even though the New Richmond Tornado only rated a 6 on the scale, over 3000 buildings were damaged or destroyed. This event would obviously rank higher in the damage value standings when viewed in current dollars.